REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are presently pending in this application. Claims 1, 13, 23, 25, and 27 have been amended. No new matter has been added. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection

In the Office Action, claims 1-28 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by United States Patent 6,226,675 to Meltzer et al. ("Meltzer"). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection, and requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102(e) rejection.

The Office Action alleges that "Meltzer et al. '675 discloses a document object generator to receive transaction information of a message (1300) and create a document object from said transaction information (1301 & 1302); a pattern object generator to receive pattern information of a pattern and create a pattern object from said pattern information (1307); and a content based switching decision logic to compare said document object with said pattern object, and to make a switching decision for a message based upon said comparison (1309, 1312; column 4, lines 54-55)."

Meltzer, in relevant part, discloses:

The registration service is one such function which is managed by the router. Thus, a market participant document is accepted at the network interface as shown in FIG. 13 (step 1300). The market participant document is stored in the business interface definition repository (step 1301) for the market maker node. In addition, the document is parsed (step 1302). The parsed document is translated into the format of the host (step 1303). Next, the document is passed to the router service (step 1304). The router service includes a listener which identifies the registration

service as the destination of the document according to the document type and content (step 1305). The document or elements of the document are passed to the registration service (step 1306). In the registration service, the needed service specifications are retrieved according to the business interface definition (step 1307). If the service specifications are gathered, at step 1308, the router service filters are set according to the business interface definition and the service specifications (step 1309). Registration acknowledgment data is produced (1310). The registration acknowledgment data is converted to a document format (step 1311). Finally, the acknowledgment document is sent to the participant node indicating to the participant that is successfully registered with the market maker (step 1312). See col. 78, line 61 – col. 79, line 17.

While Applicant disagrees with the broad grounds of rejection presented in the Office Action, Applicant has amended the independent claims in order to expedite prosecution on the merits.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to recite "a pattern parser to parse the pattern information for one or more elements according to a predefined pattern object data structure and to place said elements in appropriate blocks within said pattern object data structure."

Independent claim 13 has been amended to recite "parsing the pattern information for one or more elements according to a predefined pattern object data structure" and "placing said elements in appropriate blocks within said pattern object data structure."

Independent claim 23 has been amended to recite "said pattern information is parsed for one or more elements according to a predefined pattern object data structure, and said elements are placed in appropriate blocks within said pattern object data structure."

Independent claim 25 has been amended to recite "parsing the pattern information for one or more elements according to a predefined pattern object data structure" and "placing said elements in appropriate blocks within said pattern object data structure."

Independent claim 27 has been amended to recite "parsing the pattern information for one or more elements according to a predefined pattern object data structure" and "placing said elements in appropriate blocks within said pattern object data structure."

With respect to claims 1, 13, 23, 25, and 27, Meltzer clearly fails to teach, among other things, parsing pattern information for one or more elements according to a predefined pattern object data structure and placing the elements in appropriate blocks within the pattern object data structure. Consequently, each of claims 1, 13, 23, 25, and 27 recites a combination of features which is neither taught nor suggested by Meltzer. Applicant reminds the Examiner that in to order to anticipate a claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102, the cited reference must teach every element of the claim. See MPEP § 2131, for example.

Applicant does not otherwise concede, however, the correctness of the Office Action's rejection with respect to any of the dependent claims discussed above.

Accordingly, Applicant hereby reserves the right to make additional arguments as may be necessary to further distinguish the dependent claims from the cited references, taken alone or in combination, based on additional features contained in the dependent claims that were not discussed above. A detailed discussion of these differences is believed to be unnecessary at this time in view of the basic differences in the independent claims pointed out above.

For at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant submits that independent claims 1, 13, 23, 25, and 27 are allowable and that dependent claims 2-12, 14-22, 24, 26, and 28 are allowable by virtue of their dependency from allowable independent claims, as well as on their own merits. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 102(e) rejection of claims 1-28.

Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance and requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 724-933-3387 to discuss any matter concerning this application. The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

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Under 37 CFR 1.34(a)

Dated: February 10, 2005

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facefulls transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office at:

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¹ Without the benefit of the Office's reasoning as to the motivation to combine the cited references, Applicant is unable to analyze the merits of the Office's reasoning.